Air Transport Association ata OF AMERICA

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIR FREIGHT UP 8.7% IN 1983, 16% IN DECEMBER

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 27 -- The U.S. scheduled airlines recorded an 8.7 per cent systemwide increase in air freight in 1983 and a gain of 16 per cent in December, over December of 1982, the Air Transport Association reported today.

Domestic air freight for 1983 was up 13.2 per cent. Domestic mail traffic was up 7 per cent. International freight traffic of the U.S. scheduled airlines was up 1.8 per cent for the year, and international mail was up 3.1 per cent. Total systemwide air cargo, including freight and mail, was up 8.2 per cent for ATA airlines in 1983.

For December, domestic air freight was up 21.6 per cent and domestic mail was up 12.8 per cent. International air freight in December was up 7.5 per cent and international mail traffic gained 9.8 per cent. Total domestic and international air cargo was up 15 per cent in December.

The 1983 gain in freight traffic was the largest annual air freight gain reported by ATA in the past 10 years

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CARGO FLOWN IN SCHEDULED DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

U.S. SCHEDULED AIRLINE INDUSTRY

REVENUE TON-MILES
(In Thousands)

	DOMESTIC OPERATIONS			INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS			TOTAL	TOTAL
	FREIGHT	MAIL	TOTAL	FREIGHT	MAIL	TOTAL	FREIGHT	CARGO
DECEMBER 1983	313,803	125,466	439,269	180,320	41,716	222,036	494,123	661,305
DECEMBER 1982	258,066	111,186	369,252	167,767	37,980	205,747	425,833	574,999
PERCENT CHANGE	21.6	12.8	19.0	7.5	9.8	7.9	16.0	15.0
12 MONTHS 1983	3,558,525	1,034,766	4,593,291	2,077,683	326,187	2,403,870	5,636,208	6,997,161
12 MONTHS 1982	3,144,729	967,432	4,112,161	2,040,890	316,299	2,357,189	5,185,619	6,469,350
PERCENT CHANGE	13.2	7.0	11.7	1.8	3.1	2.0	8.7	8.2

NOTES: Carriers included: Aircal, Air Florida, Alaska, Aloha, American, Capitol, Delta, Eastern, Federal Express, Flying Tiger, Frontier, Hawaiian, Northwest, Ozark, Pan American, Piedmont, PSA, Republic, Trans World, United, USAir and Wes n. Continental's 1982-1983 data is not included for September, October, November and December.

Northwest data is not included in international figures.